

## AMAZON CLASS NEWSLETTER SPRING 2020



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! We hope that you have had a wonderful Christmas break and are now ready and raring to go!

### Topic

This Spring, our topics are called “**Out of the box**” and “**Stones to Steel**”. Amazon class will be completing a project to design a lunchbox and thinking about healthy and nutritious food to go in it. In the second term, we will be going all the way back to the Stone Age to discover about Britain at that time.

### Reading

You may have noticed that we are doing things a bit differently this year. In Amazon Class, rather than the teacher reading with a small group once a week, we are reading with the whole class 3 times each week. This means that all pupils can read with the teacher more often, moving faster through more or longer texts and benefiting from the high quality discussion about what they have read.

However, this is no substitute for reading outside school! It is vital that your child is practising their reading skills as much as possible. The emphasis in Key Stage 2 is really understanding what they have read so as well as reading to themselves for enjoyment, it is still important that they are reading to an adult and talking about what they have read. This does not need to take up much time – 5 minutes reading followed by a 10 minute discussion, will really benefit.

Next week, we will be starting a reading raffle with the opportunity to win a small prize. Each Monday, we will check the red Home Learning book and the children who have read to an adult at least 3 times at home, over the previous week will get a raffle ticket entered into the draw. Please ensure you write in the red book each time you read with your child and bring it to school every Monday.

### Home learning

In addition to reading, it is essential that children are practising their maths core skills frequently. Times Tables Rock Stars is a carefully sequenced programme of daily times tables practice. Every child has a login (inside the cover of their red book) and would really benefit from daily practise.

### PE

We will continue to have PE predominately on Tuesdays and Fridays; however, it really helps if PE Kit is in school all week, as sometimes we need to swap sessions. Please ensure your child has the appropriate clothing and footwear to allow them to fully take part, especially in the winter as we go outside whatever the weather. Label everything! It is amazing what can be misplaced!

### Trainee Teacher

This term we are lucky to have a trainee teacher, Miss Candlin, join our teaching team. She has developed great relationships with the class already and the children all enjoy working with her.

### Water bottle

Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle in school every day as staying hydrated is so important to keep our brains active. In the interest of cutting down on single use plastics, we do not have plastic cups available in the classroom.

**Thank you for your continuing support, if you have any queries at all, please just catch us after school.**

Kate South, Susan Todd, Yvonne Austin.